

Section 1 Introduction

1.0 Purpose of Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan

The City of Carlsbad has prepared this Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan as described in Sections F and H of the Municipal Storm Water Permit (NPDES Order No. 2001-01) issued by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board on February 21, 2001.

1.1 Background

The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board issued the Municipal Storm Water Permit Order No. 2001-01, NPDES No. CAS018758 on February 21, 2001 to control waste discharges in urban runoff from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) draining the watersheds of the County of San Diego, the Incorporated cities of San Diego County and the San Diego Unified Port District. There are 20 Copermittees listed in the Order.

This Order describes all requirements, including the content of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan (JURMP) to be prepared and submitted to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board by each and all the Copermittees.

1.2 Summary of NPDES Requirements

The requirements listed in the permit include the preparation, submittal and implementation of a JURMP by February 21, 2002 and a Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan (WURMP) by January 31, 2003. This document represents the City of Carlsbad's Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan designed to meet or exceed the requirements in the Permit.

1.3 Overview of Copermittees Jurisdiction

The City of Carlsbad is a unique coastal community located 35 miles north of the City of San Diego surrounded by mountains, lagoons and the Pacific Ocean. Although the "village" dates back more than 100 years, the City was incorporated July 16, 1952. At that time, Carlsbad had a population of approximately 7,000 people and covered 7.5 square miles. Since its incorporation, the City has grown substantially in population and size (through annexations). As of January 1, 2001, the population of Carlsbad was 83,469 according to the California Department of Finance. The City encompasses approximately 42 square miles of land area. There will be no foreseeable growth in the land size of Carlsbad because all County islands have been annexed. At buildout, sometime beyond the year 2010, there will be at most 54,599 residential units in Carlsbad, housing approximately 135,000 residents. The dwelling unit cap was ratified by the voters of Carlsbad in the November 1986 election and can only be increased by a majority vote of the people.

Industries in the area include a major regional shopping center, 16 auto dealers, 25 hotels offering 2,200 rooms for tourist lodging, high technology, multimedia and biomedical businesses, electronics, golf apparel and equipment manufacturers, several business and light industry parks, and numerous land developers building single and multi-family housing in a variety of community settings. Carlsbad residents enjoy the benefits of a full service City.

The City of Carlsbad is a general law city. This means the City follows the general laws of the State of California rather than having a specific charter of its own. It is a municipal corporation following the Council-Manager form of government.

The City Council is the community's legislative body. The Council enacts laws known as ordinances; sets policies known as resolutions; and, adopts an annual budget. The Mayor and four City Council members are elected city-wide by registered voters in the City of Carlsbad. These officials typically serve four-year terms. Also elected for four-year terms are the City Clerk and the City Treasurer.

The Council hires the City Manager and the City Attorney who serve at the pleasure of the City Council. The City Manager serves as the City's chief administrative officer and sees to it the Council's programs are implemented.

1.4 Watershed

The physical geography and topography of the City of Carlsbad is a very diverse with steep hills and coastal areas. As a result, there are a wide range of drainage conditions. The four major waterways and their tributary canyons have carved valleys floored with alluvial material. Thus far, construction in the flood plains has not occurred to the extent that it is a cause for concern. All drainage basins with the exception of Encinas Canyon (Canyon de las Encinas) terminate in lagoons.

The City of Carlsbad is divided into four distinct watersheds within the limits of its jurisdiction of 42 square miles. Listed below are those basins, starting from the north:

- Buena Vista Creek and Lagoon
- Agua Hedionda Creek and Lagoon
- Canyon de las Encinas Creek
- San Marcos Creek and Batiquitos Lagoon

The Carlsbad Hydrological Unit covers 210 square miles that includes these additional watersheds:

- Loma Alta Creek
- Cottonwood Creek
- Escondido Creek and San Elijo Lagoon

The Municipal Copermittees that are located in the Carlsbad Hydrological Unit include:

- The City of Carlsbad
- The City of Encinitas
- The City of Escondido
- The City of Oceanside
- The City of San Marcos
- The City of Solana Beach
- The City of Vista, and
- The County of San Diego

1.5 Receiving Waters

The Receiving Waters in the Carlsbad Hydrologic Unit are shared with the municipal copermittees. The Receiving Waters within the City of Carlsbad limits include:

- Buena Vista Creek and Lagoon
- Agua Hedionda Creek and Lagoon
- Canyon de las Encinas Creek
- San Marcos Creek and Batiquitos Lagoon, and
- The Pacific Ocean

1.6 Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Using the definitions from section F.1.b.(2)(a)vii of the Permit, it was determined that City of Carlsbad contains the following environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs):

- Buena Vista Lagoon (RARE Beneficial Use, 303(d) impaired)
- Buena Vista Creek (RARE Beneficial Use)
- Agua Hedionda Lagoon (RARE Beneficial Use, 303(d) impaired)
- Agua Hedionda Creek (proposed 303(d) for 2002)
- Multiple Habitat Conservation Program Biological Core and Linkage Areas
- Sensitive Vegetation Buffers as determined by the CityofCarlsbad

1.7 Prohibitions

The City adopted the following discharges as strictly prohibited. The list is a culmination of Chapter 15.12 of the Municipal Code, Order 2001-01, and Basin Plan prohibitions.

1. Non-storm water discharges with exceptions.
2. Non-prohibited discharges identified as a significant source of pollutants (Part B.2 of the Permit)
3. Discharges of waste to waters of the state in a manner causing, or threatening to cause a condition of pollution, contamination or nuisance as defined in California Water code Section 13050.
4. Discharge of waste to land, except as authorized by waste discharge requirements or the terms described in California Water code Section 13264.
5. Discharge of pollutants or dredged or fill material to waters of the United States except as authorized by an NPDES permit or dredged or fill material permit.
6. Discharges of recycled water to lakes or reservoirs used for municipal water supply or to inland surface water tributaries thereto with exceptions.
7. Discharge of waste to inland surface waters, except in cases where the quality of the discharge complies with applicable receiving water objectives. (Dilution factors may apply)
8. Discharge of waste in a manner causing flow, ponding, or surfacing on lands not owned or under the control of the discharge, with exceptions.
9. Dumping, deposition, or discharge of waste directly into waters of the state, or adjacent to such waters in any manner that may permit its being transported into the waters, with exceptions.
10. Discharge to a storm water conveyance system that is not composed entirely of “storm water”, with exceptions.

11. Unauthorized discharge of treated or untreated sewage to waters of the state or to a storm water conveyance system.
12. Discharge of industrial wastes to conventional septic tank/subsurface disposal systems, with exceptions.
13. Discharge of radioactive wastes amenable to alternative methods of disposal into the waters of the state.
14. Discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent into waters of the state.
15. Discharge of waste into a natural or excavated site below historic water levels, with exceptions.
16. Discharge of sand, silt, clay, or untreated earthen materials from any activity, including land grading and construction, in quantities which cause deleterious bottom deposit, turbidity, or discoloration in water of the state or threaten the use of such waters.
17. Discharge of treated sewage from vessels to small boat harbors.

1.8 JURMP Implementation Strategy

The City of Carlsbad will initiate implementation of the JURMP on February 21, 2002 and will use a continuous improvement and refinement strategy to identify changes to this JURMP through the life of the Permit.

The improvements are expected to contribute to a “living” document that changes with the advances in technology (i.e. BMPs, analytical testing, etc.) and the environmental conditions in the Watershed.

Through the mechanism of annual reporting, the major changes in the 2002 Carlsbad JURMP, are expected to be identified and submitted to the regulatory agencies in subsequent years.

The City of Carlsbad formed several teams composed of city staff from various departments to develop and implement this JURMP. With assistance from contractors and consultants, this JURMP has been developed to address the requirements of the Permit.

The City of Carlsbad is implementing this JURMP citywide with guidance and leadership from the Storm Water Protection Program located in the Public Works Department.